classes. It is for the respective State Govts. and concerned organizations to determine the selection procedure of Urdu teachers in their schools, and to ensure the availability of Urdu teachers and Urdu text-books.

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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

272. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal for upgradation and modernization of Raipur and Ranchi Airports;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the amount earmarked for the modernization of these airports;

(d) whether Government has plans to commence international flights from these airports; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) At Raipur Airport, construction of new integrated terminal building complex including two aerobridges to cater to 700 passengers (300 international + 400 domestic) at a time, has been taken up with an estimated cost of Rs. 135.72 crores and the expected date of completion is December, 2009.

At Ranchi Airport, the work of construction of a new integrated terminal building for 700 passengers (500 domestic & 200 international) with modern amenities and two aerobridges at a cost of Rs. 137.79 crores has been taken up and the expected date of completion is March, 2010.

(d) and (e) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has provided all facilities required for operation of international flights at new Integrated Terminal Building under construction at Raipur and Ranchi airports. However, at present, there is no request from any Foreign Carrier/Airline for operation through Ranchi and Raipur airports. With regard to Indian carriers, they are free to start international operations from any point in India to the agreed international destinations as per bilateral arrangements.

Madurai Airport

273. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether integrated terminal is being built at Madurai Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the terminal would be ready?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A New Integrated Terminal Building (NITB) with modern passenger facilities like

Passenger Boarding Bridges, Conveyors, Escalators and Elevators is under construction at Madurai Airport at an estimated cost of Rs. 128.76 crores. NITB can handle 500 passengers at a time. The entire project is expected to be completed by December, 2009.

Services outsourced by Indian Airlines and Air India

274. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various airport services which are outsourced by the Indian Airlines and Air India at Airports;

(b) the details of facilities provided to the Members of Parliament, in particular and senior citizens, in general; and

(c) how the ratio of reservation is maintained for various Group A,B,C,D employees of the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The services outsourced by erstwhile Indian Airlines and Air India at various airports are (i) arrangement of transport facility for staff; (ii) maintenance and operation of ground support equipments, Power Plants, Air Conditioning Systems etc.; (iii) Tarmac transportation (iv) various functions at arrival/departure, make up/break up, passenger check in & baggage handling; (v) customer agents and handymen for passenger facilitation of Air India & all customer airlines flights; (vi) security services; and (vii) cabin cleaning, toilet and water services.

(b) The facilities provided to the Members of Parliament include (i) Duty Manager/Senior Official facilitates Hon'ble MPs in completion of all the formalities at airport including check-in-immigration, security etc.; (ii) Choice of seats are provided to Hon'ble MPs, subject to availability, (iii) City check-in facility is provided to Members of Parliament in the Parliament House Booking Office for 1C coded flights; (iv) Wherever Air India has its exclusive lounges, Members of Parliament are offered the facility of use of lounges; and (v) In case of flight delays, Members are informed telephonically about the extent of delay and the revised departure time.

As regards facilities to senior citizens, Air India offers 50% discount on the normal Economy class fare to Indian nationals residing in India for journeys undertaken on domestic sectors on its domestic network. Senior citizen discount is available from the age of 65 years in case of males and 63 years in case of females. All possible assistance/facilitation including provision of wheel chair etc. are provided to make the journey of Senior Citizens comfortable.

(c) The ratio of reservation for the employees of group B, C and D is maintained by the Administrative Division of Ministry of Civil Aviation as per the instructions issued by Department of Personnel & Training (DOPT) from time to time. For group A, the reservation aspect is looked after by the DOPT directly.